

The Congressional Award Medalists

First District of Nebraska

Lauren Jurek

Silver Medal

Lauren is the daughter of Leonard and Joan Jurek. She is a freshman at Bellevue University majoring in Biology. Lauren is on an athletic scholarship to play softball for Bellevue University. She volunteered as a coach for the unified bowling and assisted at the community food drives.

Ambrose Terneus

Silver Medal

Ambrose is the son of retired Major Michael and Denise Terneus. As a junior at Mother of Divine Grace School, he is active in Boy Scout Troop 319, Bellevue Breeze Track Club, St. Peter Schola Cantorum, and Latin Club. He is a classical pianist, accordionist, and organist, and he enjoys sharing his music with the residents of Hillcrest Health and Rehab as a volunteer.

Amanda Kost

Bronze Medal

Amanda is the daughter of Retired Chief Petty Officer Brian and Mary Kost. She is a freshman at Metropolitan Community College (MCC) working on an Associate to Bachelor Degree in meteorology. She is a birthday leader at the Henry Doorly Zoo and works at the MCC bookstore.

Melissa Irish

Silver Medal

Melissa is the daughter of Retired Sergeant Craig and Glenda Irish. She is a freshman at Iowa State University majoring in Animal Ecology. She is active in the Iowa State Dance Marathon and volunteers at the Henry Doorly Zoo.

Pranav Rajan

Bronze Medal

Pranav Rajan is the son of Punitha Rajan and Rajan Srinivasan. He is a junior at Lincoln East High School where he is active in tennis and the Value Investing Club. He is the co-founder and president of CodeforChange, an organization that encourages students to explore computer science. He also conducts research for an Aquaponics project for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Gabrielle Jocson

Bronze Certificate

Gabriella is the daughter of Technical Sergeant Eugene and Angelique Jocson. She is a junior at Bellevue West High School.

Vivian Park

Bronze Certificate

Vivian is the daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Sean and Heather Park. She is a junior at Bellevue West High School.

Noteworthy Second District Recipients

Aurora Kenworthy

Bronze Certificate

Aurora is the daughter of Brent and Linda Kenworthy. She is a senior majoring in political science and history at the University of Nebraska –Lincoln.

Celeste Kenworthy

Bronze Medal

Celeste is the sister of Aurora and daughter of Brent and Linda Kenworthy. She is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln majoring in water science and geology. She is active in the Cornhusker Marching Band and is an Honors Peer Mentor. Celeste also volunteered at Hillcrest Health Services.